Modernising of Goods Transport Sector

1063. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether alongwith the development of highways Government would pay adequate attention to modernise the goods transport sector by imposing stringent measures on plying overloaded vehicles on the National Highways;

(b) whether the new concept of multi-axle trucks on highways would prove complementary to Government's efforts to upgrade the riding quality on highways, by minimising wear and tear; and

(c) if so, what incentives and assistance Government would provide to transport operators for conversion of their fleet into long-haul multi-axle system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 has provision for penalizing overloading of vehicles. Enforcement of this provision is the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Some States provide 25% tax rebate in respect of Multi Axle Vehicles. In the 30th meeting of Transport Development Council (TDC) held on 16.1.2003, other States have been requested to provide a similar tax rebate to popularize use of multi axle vehicles.

High security number plates

1064. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new security number plate is being introduced for all motorable vehicles;

(b) if so, the number of vehicles, the price of each such plate and the projected money to be spent for the switch-over to the new plates;

(c) who are producing these items; and